

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-17 are pending in the present application. The Office Action and cited references have been considered. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

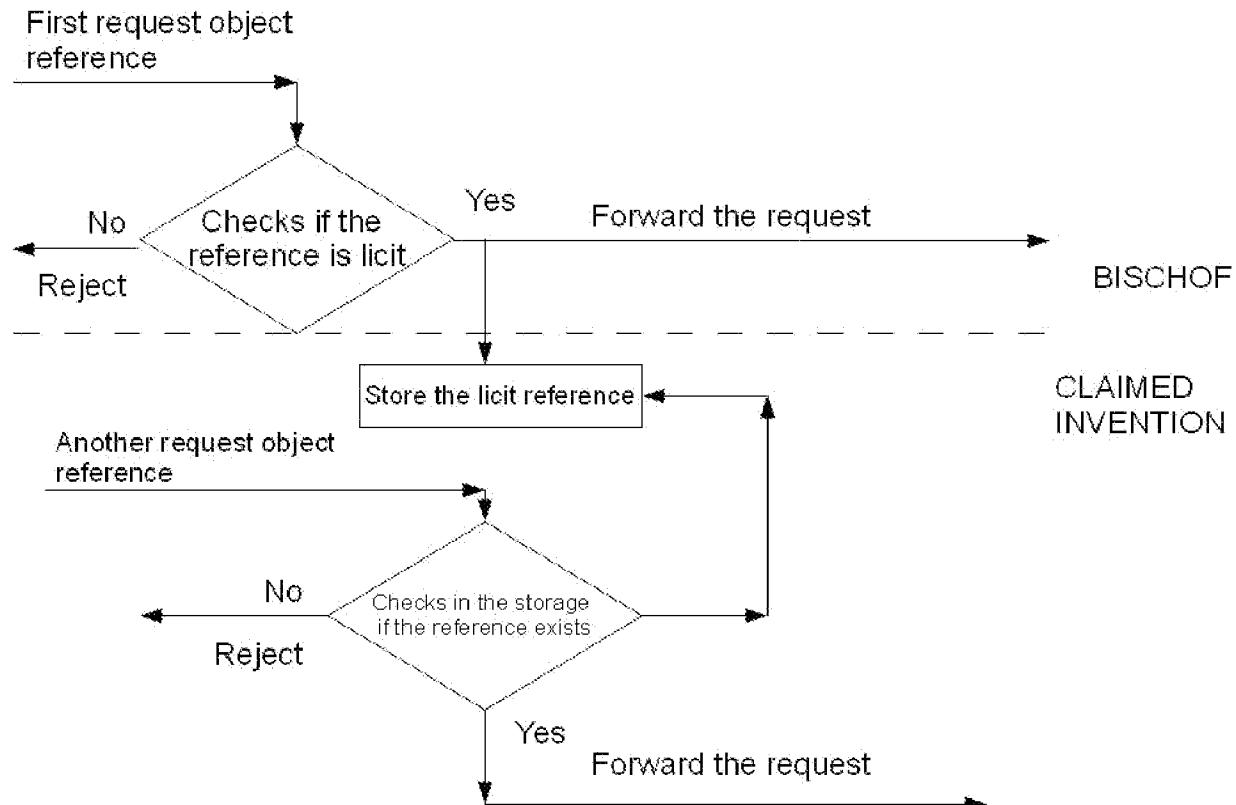
Claims 1-4, 9-14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,658573 to Bischof. Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Bischof in view of Montgomery (U.S. Patent No. 7,127,605). Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Bischof in view of Montgomery (U.S. Patent No. 7,217,605). Claims 7, 8 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Bischof in view of Montgomery and de Jong (U.S. Patent No. 7,130,549). Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Bischof in view of de Jong. These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites a method for controlling access to data handled by references in a system for executing programs, the programs including processes and tasks, wherein upon executing a program, the method comprises the steps of 1) having the system store an entire set of references which the program obtains by means considered as licit, the licit reference being stored when introducing into the program said reference by a licit means and when this licit reference is not already stored; 2) before any operation intended to be forbidden in case the operation deals with values which are not licit references, having the system check that the values are among the licit references which have been stored for this program, and 3) accepting the operation,

responsive to the step of checking, when the checking determines the values are among the licit references, and rejecting the operation responsive to the step of checking, when said checking determines the values are not among the licit references. This is not taught, disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record.

The present invention permits the storing of an entire set of references which the program obtains by means considered as licit. This allows the system to afterwards check the licit status of an after-encountered reference and therefore enhance protection of data handled by references.

Applicant provides the following drawing to clearly illustrate the difference between the disclosure of Bischof and the present claimed invention.



Appln. No. 10/585,097  
Amdt. dated July 15, 2011  
Reply to Office action of March 15, 2011

Specifically, Bischof checks if the object reference is licit, and forwards it if it is; otherwise it rejects the reference. There is no storage of licit references. Thus, claim 1 is therefore new with respect to Bischof. As this feature is not disclosed nor suggested in the other cited documents, claim 1 is new with respect to the cited documents whether taken alone or in combination.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is patentable over the prior art of record. Claims 2-17 are believed to be patentable in and of themselves, and as they depend from and include the limitations of claim 1 which is patentable for the reasons discussed above.

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections of record. Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance and early notice to this effect is most earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-628-5197.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.  
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By /Ronni S. Jillions/  
Ronni S. Jillions  
Registration No. 31,979

RSJ:me  
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197  
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528  
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